

Types of Point of View

A. Directions: Read the following passages in items 1–3. Decide which type of point of view is used in each one. Then, in the blank, write *a* for first person, *b* for second person, or *c* for third person.

- _____ 1. The child was throwing a tantrum: She threw her doll on the ground and screamed. The mother tried to ignore her at first. Then she picked up the child and strapped her into the stroller.
- _____ 2. Chess isn't a game you normally enjoy. For some reason, however, you felt a need to play. You walked past the other players and sat down at a table. You took out your board and began to set up the pieces.
- _____ 3. I waited in line with the others. My appetite had never been so strong. I looked longingly at the ribs piled up on plates next to the grill. Glancing at Amy, I could see that she was probably as hungry as I was.

B. Directions: Read the passage below. What information would a reader **not** know if the passage had been written in the first-person, from the point of view of the French climber?

4. The French climber kept struggling as the group moved closer and closer to the top of the mountain. His breathing was heavy, and he fumbled with his gloves and ax. "You're doing great, really," the team leader encouraged him, trying to boost his spirits. Inside, however, the leader was thinking something very different—"I'm not sure this guy is going to make it."

C. Directions: Read the passage below. What information might you know if the passage had been written in the third-person point of view?

5. I waited and waited in the living room. Upstairs, I could hear my brothers arguing. They'd been shouting at each other for at least twenty minutes. What were they arguing about? I wondered. I hoped it wasn't anything important, and that they'd hurry up and come down. We were going to be late.
